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TAMESIDE EYE

15p.

FIRST BIRTHDAY ISSUE

SEPT. 9

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EYE

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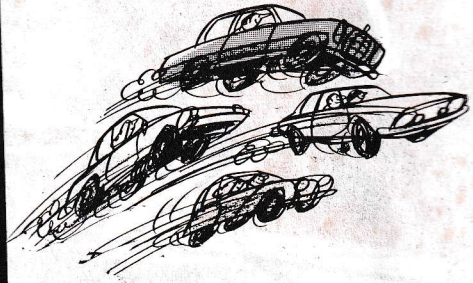
NEWS, INFORMATION, GOSSIP?

NO MAN IS GOOD ENOUGH TO BE ANOTHER MAN'S MASTER
TODAY'S PIG IS TOMORROW'S BACON
TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS NEEDS...
SCHOOL
GIRL POWER
FROM EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITIES

THE TAMESIDE TRADES UNION COUNCIL IS TRYING TO PERSUADE THE COUNCIL TO BAN CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN LOCAL SCHOOLS.

Trades Council Secretary Dave Hallsworth told EYE that corporal punishment is 'barbaric' . He said that the same canes used in schools are 'sold in sex shops for perversions alongside photos of school girls being caned.'
The Director of Education says that corporal punishment is 'up to the headmaster' under Tameside policy. So, the Trades Council is now pressing for a change in policy, or, at least, for parents to have the right to say whether or not they wish their child to be beaten.
The Trades Council is also offering support to any Tameside pupil trying to join 'The National Union of School Students (N.U.S.S.) a branch of which is being formed in the area.
This is not likely to be popular with Tameside teachers. Their main union, the N.U.T. recently voted to retain corporal punishment and is strongly against pupils joining unions. The NUT is affiliated to the Trades Council.



The Greater Manchester Council Structure Plan (a copy is available from County Hall or in Main Libraries) is now out and will be the subject of a Public Enquiry at Oldham Civic Centre on Oc. 30th Amongst other things it is proposing that we spend a further £125 million on roads, and that we continue building motorways for the next 15 years. It argues that the use of private transport (i.e. cars) will increase by 55% over the next six years and that private car ownership will increase by 10-20% too. This guess work completely ignores the fuel shortages likely to be experienced and takes no account of the mounting evidence of lead poisoning occurring in the vicinity of motorways.
If you object to this or have any comment to make on any other aspect of the Plan, put it in writing to Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Britain is a haven of free speech, ask any Tameside policeman. CARF and Tameside Trades Council held a joint street meeting in Ashton precinct on Sat. 25th August. They were speaking out against the arrest and detention indefinitely, without trial, of Gius Uddin from Mossley on remand in Harmondsworth Detention Centre. Speakers argued that immigrants should have the same rights as white residents: the right to be treated as innocent until proved guilty, no arrest without charge and the right to legal represen tation all of which are denied under the 1971 immigration act.
The following Saturday a further meeting was held at which a policeman made copious notes before telling Dave Hallsworth, secretary of TTC and President of the Council for Racial Equality who was speaking at the time that the meeting must not continue. Dave pointed out that many previous meetings had been held in the precinct, this one was peacable and not causing an obstruction.

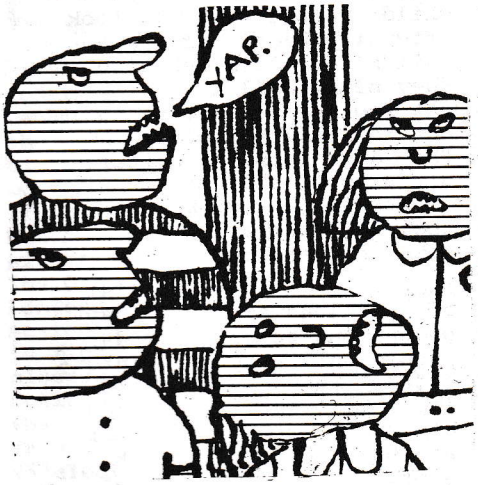
CONTACT EYE ON THE HOT LINE ...

HOT LINE

tel 330 1359

Always ones for open debate the police arrested Dave. CARF Chairman, John Tummon then began to speak, alluding to the advantages of free speech and was also arrested and hustled away to a panda car.
Dave and John have been charged with action likely to cause a breach of the peace and appear in Ashton Magistrates Court on 1st Oct.
All in all a useful lesson in Traditional British values for the Saturday shoppers of Ashton.

A week after the arrests a further meeting was held to re- affirm the right of Tameside people to use the precinct for political debate. The police were conspicuous by their absence and the meeting went ahead as planned, uninterupted.



A latch key scheme has just been set up at Whitfield Community Centre, Ebenezer St. , Glossop. It aims to take care of children during the hours when parents are at work and school is closed. Sessions are 7.30 - 9.00am and 3.15 -6.00pm. Cost £2.50 for the first child per week, £1 thereafter or 50p. per child per day. It will be run by a qualified full-time organiser and volunteers. The latch-key scheme has been organised by Glossop Women's Voice, after a year of hard work calling public meetings, applying for STEP money, and sending a questionnaire round local schools.
When they discovered that Whitfield Community Assoc. was setting up a mother & toddler group the two got together to share facilities. Also at Whitfield Community Centre: 9-12am and 1.30-4pm a Drop in centre for mothers and toddlers, where you can have a cup of coffee and a chat, or use the sewing and craft facilities (a course of knitting machine lessons is starting soon) 20p per session.
Further details of the latch-key scheme. Tel Carol Beckett. Glossop 64287.
Helpers and any offers of toys are welcome.

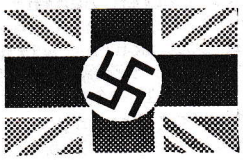
Tenants in Haughton Green and Hattersley who pay their rent to Manchester are getting together with Trades Unionists to tackle the difficult problems facing council housing in these 'overspill' estates.
On July 28th, at the Basement Theatre, Manchester Town Hall, a meeting sponsored by Manchester Trades Council was held with representatives of Direct Works Depots, tenants groups, trade unions and the City Labour Group all present.
Amongst other things this Housing Action Conference (along with similar get-togethers that have been held at other cities this year) agreed on the following:
1. No sales of council houses or council land.
2. No cut backs in Direct Works.
3. Full consultation between tenants groups and Direct Works on modernisation, repairs, maintenance and construction.
4. An end to private contracting in the council house sector.
5. No rents and rates increases.
A standing conference of tenants, Direct Works and other interested organisations is being set up. If you want your tenants group or trades union to be represented, contact Patrick on 236 0350 or Dave on 225 5111.

Tameside Social Workers are muttering about Assistand Director John Bromley Recently, he was given an internal review of the Depts system of monitoring kids home 'on trial' from Community Homes. The review laid most of the blame for failures in the system at the door of management. Mr. Bromley did not appear to like this.
He asked to see raw data. This was then used as the basis of a letter to Divisional Offices criticising three social workers involved in the scheme for falling behind on their case loads. As it happens, one of the three had fallen behind because there he had been off work for months with bad cartilage trouble. Another is well-known in the Dept. for having one of the heaviest case loads in the area.
And, all three were Union Shop Stewards who had come into conflict with Mr. Bromley several times before. Now Mr. B. is leaving to become Deputy Director of Doncaster Social Services where, we understand, the Difector is due for retirement very soon.

So now we know.....
Tom Pendry M.P. collared Sir Keith Josephs recently in the House of Commons and complained about Tameside losing 'Intermediate Area'Status . Tameside now has no status at all in the eyes of the Dept. of Industry section, which gives out government aid to industry.
Sir Keith replied: 'Well, Tom, this is actually a

sign of hope for your area....'

The emergency night telephone run by Tameside Social Services is being left unmanned for hours at a time. This happens when the duty Social Worker has to leave his post to return absconding Tameside kids to 'Community Homes' (the old approved schools) outside the area. Theoretically, these kids should be put up overnight at Tall Turrets Home in Stalybridge, and returned the following morning. But, Tall Turrets is often full-up, as is the alternative accomodation at Heys House in Cheadle. So, the person on the emergency phone has to abandon his place and drive kids back to places as far afield as Southport. Leaving people who may be desperate making phone calls to an empty room.



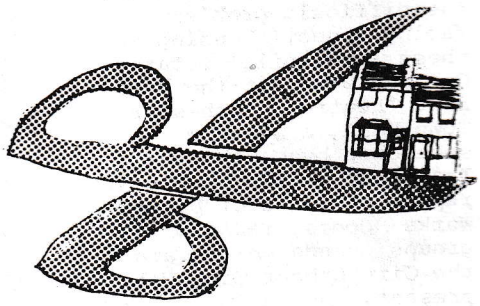
The Jackson St. Mosque in Hyde is in the news again. Earlier this year a group of residents ran an unsuccessful campaign to prevent the mosque being completed. The spokesperson then was Mrs. Louie Womack, who claimed, in the Reporter, that she was not in any way racially motivated.
EYE ran an article at the time pointing out that Mrs. Womack did in fact have close links with the N.F. and was an active campaigner in racialist politics. Later when an EYE reporter visited The Reporter offices in Hyde he was told by a journalist there that they were aware of Mrs. Womacks N.F. links but had not mentioned them in their report because that would have been 'comment.' Just after that, Mrs. Womack appeared on the T.V. in the N.F. party political broadcast.

The spokesperson in the latest Reporter article is Mrs. Mary Dwyer. She says that the mosque is noisy. The mosque users deny this. Mrs. Dwyer also claimed that her complaints were not racially motivated. The Reporter did not 'comment' on this. Mrs. Dwyer is in fact a former N.F. election candidate.

We've just heard of some novel tactics used by the N.F. to secure nominations for their Ashton Parliamentary candidate Anthony Jones, last May. An elderly citizen of Ashton's West End opened her door to find Frank Cropper (the N.F. election agent) and her landlord both standing there. The landlord it seems asked her to sign a paper nominating Jones. The lady, not wishing to offend the man to whom she pays her rent did so.

According to Manchester's CITY ENQUIRER Anthony Jones of Bowness Rd. Ashton has recently been appointed organiser of the Manchester N.F.
EYE wonders if Mr. Jones, who claims that his party is 'respectable' is aware that its Stockport branch was recently addressed by a gentleman by the name of Eddie Morrison .

Mr. Morrison has a long history of involvement with pure nazi groups in Leeds including the former 'British National Party.'



One Monday in August, it was announced by Wreckreation Dept. that due to financial and staffing problems, the Community Centre at Hattersley would be closed from 5p.m. in the evenings, the next Monday onwards.
By Tuesday afternoon, with even Akela from the local cubs up in arms, a special meeting of Hattersley Forum had been called for Friday evening, and the story managed the front page of the North Cheshire Herald.

Lo and behold! Wreckreation had not only managed to solve their 'financial' problem, but also to appoint a new caretaker - before the meeting....
Postscript: the meeting still went ahead. Forumgoers were treated to the stirring sight of Cllrs. Oldham and Hatton being put in their place (literally) bu Forum's Chairman. They were told in no uncertain terms that as forum had called the meeting they must sit with everyone else, not at the front as they had assumed.
During the meeting, Jim Rogers, the centre manager, came in for some stick from all sides and looked very glum. This was a bit unfair, for it wasn't all Jims fault. Everyone knows that the decision to close the centre was taken by his immediate superior, Rex Hampson. Strangely, though, I don't think Rex made it to the meeting; perhaps he was too busy out selling his jewellry?

The Hyde and Broadbottom women's group have started a campaign to set up a nursery in Hyde. They talked about the main problems working women with children face - who'll look after the kids? If its a childminder or a relative they might fall ill, or get fed up, or want to go out to work themselves. They agreed that a nursery gives young children a chance to play with kids their own age and learn some independence.

They gave out a short list of questions at local playgroups and schools and 44 people said they were interested. They are now holding a meeting in the Assembly rooms at Hyde Town Hall at 10.30 am on Sat. 15th Sept. But unless you get your EYE red hot from the press you'll have missed it, so if you're interested contact Kirstie Benefer 11 Windsor Rd. Hyde. Tel 368 2126.

The organisers of last months Tameside canals festival deserve a big round of applause. Anyone who can persuade thousands of people to spend a weekend in Ashtons sadly run-down West End AND show them a good time must be touched with genius. It's a pity therefore that one or two things provoked complaints. Moans about the 40p. deposit on pint mugs at the real ale tent were probably unreasonable (especially as abandoned mugs provided enterprising local kids with extra pocket money). But, was it REALLY necessary to charge £1 for a roasted chicken leg? and SO MUCH for kiddies rides?
And why is it always necessary at such functions to give the army yet another opportunity for covert recruiting? Havn't enough of our kids been killed in N. Ireland already?

At present, no doubt in a bid to justify its existence, the Wreckreation Dept. is undertaking a costly exercise to gain admittance to that exclusive club - the BBC's 'It's a Knockout'. Meanwhile, rumour has it that the £13,000 they spend per year on kids playschemes is going to be axed completely and volunteers will be expected to run the schemes.

The woodhead Railway line is threatened with closure, although it is the most modern of the four trans-Pennine railways and has the only tunnel which is big enough for continental containers.
If it is closed the Glossop/Manchester passenger service will also be threatened.
The Glossop, Hadfield and Longendale Special Transport Action Group formed in 1978 to fight the threatened closure and the plans to build a motorway to replace the rail line.
They ask how the closure of an electrified main line can be justified in a continuing energy crisis and demand that British Rails secret reports on the issue be made available to the public.
Further info contact: R. Paul White, 57 Platt St, Padfield, Hadfield Hyde, Ches.

Legal RIP-OFF!

8. The fact that the Property may be affected by a Compulsory Purchase Order or Demolition order and that the Property may be ecquired and demolished under such order shall not release the Purchaser from his obligation to pay the weekly instalments provided for by this agreement until the whole of the Purchase price and Interest hereunder shall have been paid.

THREE YEARS AGO A YOUNG COUPLE AND THEIR TWO TINY CHILDREN WERE LIVING WITH THEIR PARENTS IN BADLY OVERCROWDED CONDITIONS. SO WHEN THEY SAW AN AD OFFERING A CHEAP MORTGAGE ON A TERRACED HOUSE IN DUKINFIELD THEY ANSWERED RIGHT AWAY. THAT'S WHEN THEIR TROUBLES BEGAN.

Mr. Grant turned up at the offices of Dean and Whip Ltd. in Denton at 3pm. By 4.30 he had signed a legally binding contract and 'bought' a £3,495 house in Dukinfield for £150 down and weekly payments of £9.
A bargain.
Or was it?
Mr. and Mrs. Grant began to have doubts soon after moving in. There was no hot water. The upstairs windows didn't close and the downstairs windows did not open. Damp started to show through the new wallpaper someone had stuck over it. Two years later the council surveyor came round to inform them that the house was due to be demolished under a compulsory purchase order (CPO) and that it was valued at only £1,500. Less than half the sum they were contracted to pay Dean and Whip.
It was a bad shock but the Grants could at least comfort themselves with the thought that, as owners, they would get council compensation and disturbance allowance.
But WERE they the owners of the house?
Mr. Grant went back to the contract.
Under a conventional mortgage they would have been owners from the moment the house had been conveyanced over to them.
But they had not signed a regular mortgage agreement. Their 'cheap' 'rental mortgage' contract said quite specifically that they were not the owners of the house until the last payment on it had been made.

It gave Dean and Whip Ltd., the right to :

- 'Terminate the agreement and evict the Grants if at any time, they fell seven days behind on payments.
- The right to claim any compensation from the council if the property was put under a CPO.
- The right to claim any disturbance allowance the Grants may get to put towards the balance of the original £3,495 that was still owing.
- The right to insist that the Grants GO ON making their weekly payments to them EVEN AFTER the house had been knocked down.

The Grants were shattered.
They were not alone. There were three other families in the same situation on their street.
And others scattered throughout Tameside.

The Deans

In 1974 (which was the last time accounts appear to have been filed with Company House in London) Dean and Whip Ltd. owned at least 279 properties in Tameside, probably many more. 113 of these were being sold under 'rental mortgage' agreements and 82 were under CPO's.

cont.p.6.

RIP-OFF CONT.

The company also owned property in Gorton, Ardwick and Moss Side. In Moss Side ALL the 56 Dean properties listed were either under 'rental mortgages' or CPO's. It's difficult to say just how many of the occupiers of these houses were in exactly the same situation as the Grants.
One or two such cases come to the attention of Tameside Legal Dept. every so often. Others stay hidden.
But, when Dean 'clients' DO complain lengthy negotiations often break down because the client gets fed-up, cuts his losses and moves away. Leaving the Deans to collect any compensation due.
According to a source at Tameside Legal Dept. Dean and Whip rarely claim their full rights under the agreements.
'If they did' he said, 'they would be cutting their own throats by creating public outrage'.
So, no one in Tameside has been forced to keep up payments after his house has been demolished. And when clients DO persist they usually get a proportion of the CPO compensation. But they DON'T get the house they paid for. And they rarely have enough money to put down on a conventional mortgage afterwards.
In some cases their attempts to get council housing have been hampered by Dean and Whip's reluctance to give assurances to Tameside that theproperty would not be relet before demolition. During delays the company continues to collect from the impatient and often desperate client.
The Grants moved out of their house sometime ago, and it has now been demolished.
But Dean and Whip goes on. All the shares in Dean and Whip are owned by the Dean family who are well known in Hyde.
The enterprise is run mainly by John M.Dean a Cambridge boxing blue with a law degree who used to be a solicitor. But, John's mother Mary Dean JP, and his father, Harry are both directors, as is John's brother Harry jnr.
Dean and Whip was established by Harry snr. and Robert Whip just after the war as a building firm but since then the company has, according to the 1972 Directors Report, become 'principally engaged in property dealing'. It has acquired over 16 subsidiaries including: Clarendon Rd. Properties Ltd., Harry Dean Ltd., Harry Dean (Builders) Ltd., Dean Securities Ltd., John M.Dean (Trading) Ltd. GHMH Ltd., Milton Fabricators Ltd., Neda Investments Ltd. Neda Properties Ltd., Samches Properties Ltd. & Welding Shields Ltd.

The companies which do most of the Tameside property work are Real Properties (Hyde) Ltd., Dual Investments Ltd., Ovington St.Properties Ltd., and Milton Properties (Hyde) Ltd.
Most of theproperty 'dealt' in appears to be old and is in many cases in near-slum condition.
There is nothing illegal in this.
In London, for example, it is common for Property Co's to buy up old houses dirt cheap in declining areas and recoup their investment by renting them out until CPO's are slapped on them.
Then the company claims the compensation. And, houses like this are often sold ' under 'rental mortgage' as a means of getting around the rent acts. The 'mortgagees' being regarded for this purpose as the owners, until of course the CPO compensation money has to be claimed. When the precise nature of that 'ownership' is disputed.
There is of course no suggestion that this is what Dean and Whip Ltd. do.

Profits

According to Company accounts Dean and Whip do not make much money.
In 1971 net profits for the whole group were reported as a mere £13,288 and the highest paid Director in 1971 got only £7,558.
Unfortunately, though, the auditors have, since 1971, been unable 'to express an opinion as to whether the accounts and notes give a true and fair view of the state of the companies affairs ...and of the profit for the year' because ' internal control procedures are extremely limited.'
This is understandable.
Small companies like Dean and Whip often have difficulty complying with Company Law in these matters.
The requirements are so complicated and there are so many forms. In 1968 the company Registrar actually dissolved Dean and Whip because of its repeated failure to make proper returns. The company was re-registered when they had been made.

BUILDERS PROFIT

TAMESIDE COUNCIL IS BEING TAKEN TO THE CLEANERS BY PRIVATE BUILDERS DOING IMPROVEMENT WORK ON COUNCIL PROPERTY.

In the Nelson St. 'Housing Action Area' in Hyde, for example, builders doing work for the council are charging up to £13,000 for a complete council house modernisation.
But Housing Associations are only charged £11,000 and owner occupiers as little as £6,000.
The builders ARE different in each case, but the work is THE SAME. In some cases MORE work is done on privately owned property than for the council.
An explanation sometimes offered for this vast disparity in improvement costs is that council contracts are lengthy and complicated. Contractors often put up their prices and take possible penalty clauses into consideration.
But according to Housing Chairman Peter Bailey penalties are rarely imposed even when builders fall behind schedule.
Housing Associations' improvements cost more than private ones because they have to pay fees to the architects who draw up the plans. And - thanks to the amazingly effective closed-shop operated by the Royal Institute of Architects-'fees' often amount to over £1,000 for an £11,000 job. And they pick up that £1,000 for every house improved on the same initial plan!
But the council has its own architects dept., which doesn't charge 'fees'
The council does tend to use bigger building firms with higher overheads but not 12% higher overheads!
No, the plain and simple reason why it can cost the council £13,000 for improvments when the owner occupier gets the same work for £6,000 is that builders are profiteering.
They charge the council more because they know the council will pay up, out of ratepayers money!

Want to use our Company House research facilities? to find out your boss' pay, company profits etc. and what the shareholders got last year? Got a story of your own to tell? RING 3304

MUCK & BRASS

"The shipping container industry is still growing rapidly, and it won't level off for another 10 years in my opinion.

-says James Corcoran, Managing Director of Adamson Containers Ltd. of Stockport whose exports to the major shipping countries of the world were running at £6.4m in 1978.

Acrow subsidiary Adamsons Containers are at it again. Only nine months after setting up the £ 9 million Reddish containers plant which drafted large numbers of workers from the Dukinfield area They sent the 260 strong workforce on Wakes holiday with the prospect of axing 45 jobs. Management claim lack of orders. Seems the recent Guardian report of upturn in the container market cuts little ice. Last year's pre-tax profits were £13.78 million.

Also ignored was the agreed procedure of redundancies under the Engineers Employers Federation own policy whereby volunteers for redundancies are taken first and thereafter negotiations take place on a last in first out basis. Faced with an immediate history of strong rank and file organisation management had its own ideas: all except one of the shop stewards' committee were on the list for the local job centre. Steward John Taylor, for example, has in eleven years service: two years ago he was given a silver cigarette case for 'loyal and outstanding service to the company.'

Now he has been asked by Managing Director Corcoran to 'name his price' to accept redundancy (interestingly one of the objections management have to John's 'service to the company' was his sale of Tameside Eye to his mates at work).

The decision to strike was unanimous. After five days picketing, several coachloads of police arrived near the works to stop a supposed occupation of the factory. One police inspector told the pickets they would be arrested for the civil offence of trespass, in other words if they entered their own place of work!

It could be the interesting interpretation of the law of picketing gave the strikers an idea since the following Wednesday Adamson workers occupied the Eccles offices of the Engineers Employers Federation to get them to encourage Adamsons to comply with agreed procedures on redundancies. Meanwhile other Acrow plants may come out in support of the demand to withdraw the named list for redundancies and start negotiations. This includes the Dukinfield Adamsons & Hatchet factory where the economic crisis seems less severe since they are currently advertising for skilled workers such as are being sacked in Reddish . Trade Unionists, it would seem, need not apply.

Support & Donations to: Strike Support Committee, 6 Brooklands Rd. Reddish.

Last issue we revealed that the National and Commercial Banking Group-which boasts as one of its directors Tameside big-wig Sir George Kenyon made a £2,000 donation to 'The Economic League' in 1978. This 'league' keeps blacklists of active trades unionists and so-called 'subversives' which is made available to subscribers on an ex-directory telephone number.

Kenyon watchers may be interested to know that another one of Sir George's companies-William and Glyns Bank Ltd., makes donations to the league-in this case £1,000 last year.

HURST AND JONES EXTRA

Following EYE's story about the sacking of Maggie Pearson from the Hyde printing firm of Hurst and Jones, a memo has been issued to all their staff containing the following:- "At No time may you verbally or in writinginform any person not employed by the company of any matter relating to the company's process, affairs, technical or commercial information, employees personal information such as names, addresses or duties. Specifically nothing that is not concerned with the actual performance of your own duties, a breach of the confidentiality rule will be regarded as gross misbehaviour which invites instant dismissal." However, not wishing to be one sided it does give guidance on their attitude to membership of Trades Unions when it goes on to say: 'Your Contract of Employment indicates the willingness of the Company to recognise legitimate Union activities. The general conditions are:

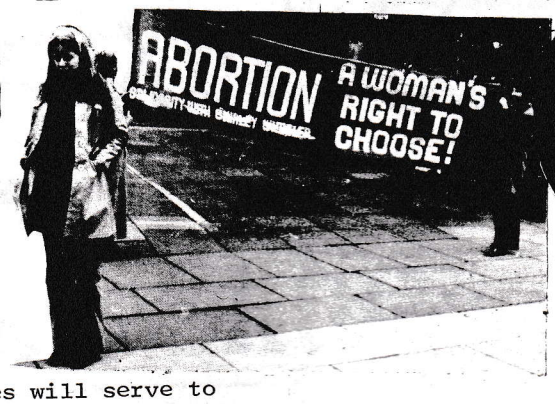
1. That the Union chosen has activities which are compatable with the interests of the individual employees and with the company.

2. That actual membership of a Union will be neither an advantage or a disadvantage to an employee who carries out their duties in a satisfactory manner....'

It seems then, that they are quite happy for you to join a Union, as long as it doesn't do you any good. With such progressive attitudes it must therefore be pure coincidence that another Union member has been sacked since Maggie and a further coincidence that this was after he had indicated his willingness to testify on Maggie's behalf at her forthcoming tribunal.

Meanwhile SOGAT have made themselves busy collecting subs from the remaining members, but have so far been a bit light on direct support. Mr. Jones, while not issuing memos to his dwindling staff or briefing his solicitors, has explained his intention to sue EYE over our last report.

CORRIE CHIPS AWAY AT CHOICE



John Corrie's Bill to ammend the 1967 Abortion Bill went through Parliament recently with a large majority. It has a good chance of being passed when it has its 3rd reading in the new year. So, despite much opposition it is likely that a Woman's right to choose is going to be severely curtailed.

limits

Briefly, the bill aims to limit the effect of the '67 Act in the following ways:-

1. To reduce the time limit on abortions from 28 to 20 weeks. In fact only 1% of all abortions are done after 20 weeks but the vast majority of these are very desperate cases.

2. The grounds for abortion are to be changed from there needing to be a risk to a pregnant women's life to there being a GRAVE risk. Similarly, the injury to her families physical or mental health is changed to SUBSTANTIAL risk of SEVERE injury. These adjectives will serve to curtail the number of abortions because doctors will have to be much more cautious to avoid prosecution.

3. All agencies advising women about abortion will have to be licensed. A licence will not be issued if the advice agency has any connection with clinics performing abortions. This will severely limit the activities of agencies like the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) which provides a service in areas where it is almost impossible to get N.H.S. abortions.

campaign

The Tameside National Abortion Campaign Group have already met to make plans to canvass support against the Corrie Bill. They are hoping to have street and factory meetings as well as organising a petition. They are also planning to organise a contingent to attend the mass demonstration against the Corrie Bill, in London on Sun. Oct. 28th.

We understand that Mr. Sheldon M.P. is likely to vote against the bill but that Mr. Pendry is likely to support it.

Why not write to your M.P. and find out exactly where they stand on this issue.

NAC are planning to hold street meetings in the area in the next few weeks. Contact the secretary Marie Dale at 368 6741 for further details.

Next NAC meeting is on Weds 10th Oct. 8p.m. at the AUEW

LEGAL OPINION

Recently, Eric Knott of the Gtr. Manchester Legal Aid Group told trades unionists and community activists on the Tameside Community Law Steering group that the Tameside Law Society is strongly opposed to a Law Centre in the area.

The Law Society is the local solicitors 'Trades Union' and their opposition means in effect that a Law Centre providing a full and free legal service to the people of Tameside 'run by a group of dedicated lawyers interested in people rather than money' is an absolute non-starter.

This is because any lawyer wishing to practice at such a Law Centre would experience difficulty in getting the necessary 'form of dispensation' from the Law Society in London.

progressive

The steering group, which is made up of 'progressive' lawyers, trades unionists and community activists is now going ahead with plans to get at least one 'Community Lawyer' for the area The money will hopefully come from the council and urban aid.

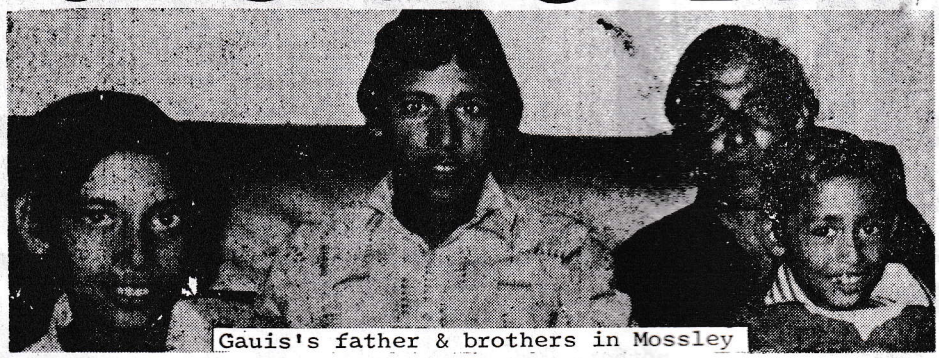
A 'Community Lawyer' would not provide the same services as a full Law Centre, he could only advise people but not represent them. But, according to Mr. Knott, the local Law Society is also opposed

reactionary

to Community Lawyers and even objects to a rota scheme of lawyers attending Citizens Advice Centres. It claims that the service being provided by local solicitors is already adequate.

Those involved say that the Law Society is reactionary and simply scared of losing custom.

GAUIS UDDIN



Gauis's father & brothers in Mossley

'We will do all we can until you are released and able to return to normal life free of all harrassment by police and state officials.' This is part of a letter recently sent by Tameside Campaign Against Racism and Fascism to Gias Uddin, an 18 year old restaurant worker from Mossley who has been held for two months in Harmondsworth Detention Centre, near Heathrow Airport. He is threatened with deportation under the 1971 Immigration Act on the grounds that 'the Home Secretary does not believe that he is the biological son of his father.' This accusation was made after police and immigration officials raided the restaurant in Southport where Gias was working and found in his possession a letter addressed to Salik Miah. Although it is common in Bangladesh to have a 'pet' or 'village' name and that Gias father has signed a legal affidavit stating that he is his natural father, the Home Office still refuses to release Gias or drop the deportation threat.
This case has illustrated the very disturbing aspects of the way black people are treated under the immigration laws.

rights

At no time has Gias been brought to trial or charged with any criminal offence. Under the 1971 Immigration Act , the Home Secretary is empowered to order the deportation of any person whose removal he thinks 'is conducive to the public good' or 'on the grounds of undesirability'. He does not have to present any evidence before a court - his word goes. There is no right of appeal and no right to legal representation. Furthermore, the centuries old right 'habeous corpus' that no person may be kept in detention without the right to a trial does not protect persons arrested under the Immigration Law. Gias Uddin is not alone. Since the 1971 Act, 5,000 people have been deported the overwhelming majority of these being black.

demonstrations

Several local organisations including CARF and Tameside Trades Council have taken up Gias's case and, in Merseyside where he worked, five M.P.'s, many black organisations, the Council for Racial Equality, unions and individuals have protested against his treatment. There have been demonstrations at Immigration offices and thousands of signatures have been collected.
CARF maintains that the pretext of casting doubts on a youths parentage is increasingly being used, but only against black youth. To a deeply religious community accusations that a parent is not the biological parent are a great insult. This follows soon after the revelations of the disgusting 'virginity tests' against young Asian women coming into the country to marry men already here. In any case, even if a child were not a biological child, but an adoptive one, why should it matter.

What you can do:-
Write letters of protest to the Home Secretary c/o House of Commons, London S.W.1. calling for Gias Uddin's immediate release and dropping of the deportation threat.
Write a letter of support to Gias at Harmondsworth Detention Centre, Heathrow, Mdx. and to CARF at the A.U.E.W. Office, Margaret St. South, Ashton Under Lyne.
Ask your M.P., your Union or your political organisation to support the campaign.

Advertiser HAMMERS Reporter

SINCE LAST MAY 'THE REPORTER' HAS BEEN FACING COMPETITION FROM 'THE ADVERTISER' A 12 PAGE WEEKLY NEWS AND AD SHEET DISTRIBUTED FREE TO 65,000 HOUSES IN ASHTON, STALYBRIDGE, DENTON AND HYDE.
EYE INVESTIGATES.....

Free papers financed entirely by ads are usually short on good news. The 'Advertiser' claims to be differen . Editor Brian Chadderton and his four full time journalists say they are trying to produce a non political paper that is 'bright and readable'. Chadderton feels that the Reporter is 'rather grey.' The Advertiser is owned by Swain and Co.Ltd. a Stockport firm which also produces the Stockport Advertiser. Last year Swain and Co. were bought up by the M/cr. Guardian and M/cr.Evening News Group.

control

Aside from The Guardian and The Evening News this group also controls The Rochdale Observer, Guardian Business Services Ltd., and Gemini News Services Ltd. In addition it has a 15% shareholding in Radio Picadilly. Another company has recently been formed 'to acquire and develop news agents shops' in the Greater Manchester area. It already has the franchise on ALL the GMT bus station kiosks.

comment

The Guardian Group is clearly trying to increase and consolidate its hold on the production and distribution of news in Greater M/cr. The appearance of the Advertiser in Tameside must be seen as part of this process. When EYE contacted Bill Williamson the Reporter editor he would make no comment on the effects the Advertiser is having on Reporter circulation. Advertiser boss Clive Morris claims there is room for both papers, but the Advertiser IS brighter and more interesting than its venerable old rival.

/cont. p. 12

BATTERED

Tameside Battered Wives Project gave help and refuge to 175 women last year - women with stories like these...

Jean Ellis* is a tall, elegant looking woman in her forties. She described her marriage as 'perfect' - except when her husband had been drinking. He beat her on her wedding night, 20 years ago, and since then he's hit her, pushed her against walls and down stairs, tried to throttle her, thrown dishes at her, and threatened (in front of the police) to murder her 'Next day he would sit down and cry about it and repair the damage he'd done to the house - he'd treat me like a piece of china, wait on me hand and foot, yet when he's had beer he's brutal. I used to hang my coat in the hall ready with keys, cigarettes and lighter in the pocket, so I could get out as he was coming in... I slept on railway lines and in sheds, and I'd come back later through the windows. Once he'd gone to sleep it was alright.'

remained with his mother, and witnessed her activities with her many boyfriends. Jean reckons that when he is drunk, it's his mother he's hitting out at- although she's the one who gets the blows.

She first ran away to her sister, but she was scared of the husband, and phoned the police. Jean was taken to Social Services and told 'You don't look the type to go into a refuge', but she convinced them she was willing to go anywhere. Meg Brickell of Tameside Battered Wives took Jean to the Ashton Refuge, and her children were brought there from school the next day.

But Jean didn't like the refuge and only stayed a few days. 'I went back to him, I still loved him, but the more I keep going back, the more its affecting the children. Now I'm

'I was always too frightened to call the police'

He discovered how she was getting in and nailed down the windows. A neighbour helped her get in, and the next day he broke all the neighbour's windows.
'I was always too frightened to call the police or the doctor, because of what he'd do.'

The violence was always accompanied with accusations that Jean was sleeping with other men, and now she's in a refuge he insists that she is living in a brothel.

Like many other violent husbands, his own father beat his mother. When his father died his brothers and sisters were taken into care but he, as the youngest

gradually realising what he's done.'
Now is the fourth time, and she's been away for 14 months. Her younger son is so disturbed that he is being sent to a special school; he truants, and is violent with other children. Her divorce is pending, and she's got a job as a warden at the Droylsden Battered Wives Home. She and her son live in a council flat. Her husband gives her no money.

the drink link

98 of the women in Tameside refuges last year either had alcoholic husbands or were alcoholic themselves and Tameside figures show that in 1978 56% of violent marriages were affected by alcohol. Pamela Evans' story is similar to Jean's

in this, and in her husban violent background. 80% of violent husbands have had violent childhoods. Jealousy is the most common spoken cause for brutality, and here again Pam's experience resembles Jean's

Pamela Lyn Evans is 30, vivacious and friendly and very articulate. When she talked to me her legs were still blue and yellow from her most recent battering.
After nine years of violen marriage, she decided to sue for divorce when her husband broke her arm and dislocated her shoulder. He accused her of having with other men at work in her dinner hour and whenev she was out of his sight.
The statement she made fo the divorce (on the groun of cruelty) read, said th Judge, 'like a page from a horror story.' When he was shown her statement, her husband punched Pamela in

*Names have been altered to protect the women involved.

'You're just in a void and there's nothing to grab out at'

When her divorce came through her husband was still in their house and refused to budge. Pam took the decree absolute, her custody papers (for the children) and the injunction excluding him from the house to the housing dept. But the council refused to make the tenancy over to Pam's name, because of several hundred pounds of rent arrears. Her solicitors told her not to worry, that the injunction would be enforced by the police. Desperate, after two weeks she 'phoned the police, who came and took the husband away. According to the injunction, they should have imprisoned him for 28 days. But, he showed them the rent book, which still bore his name, and they let him go.

Pam and her four children shared a house with the man she had divorced for cruelty for four more years. 'I was living on my nerves all the time. One wrong move could have turned him. We didn't live as man and wife for two years - then we started again. It was a forced relationship - I'd have called it rape the first time. Nobody wanted to know. I'd gone to the solicitor, to housing, but I didn't seem to get any help from anywhere.'

the face for daring to make it. She went back to the solicitor for help and was told 'It's alright, we don't need that - there's enough violence on your statement already.'

'Go home'

Pam's story shows a quite incredible lack of support and help from police, solicitors, social workers and the council.

Once, her husband smashed her in the face when she was drinking a cup of tea, and the cup gashed her forehead. Stitching her up, the hospital asked how it happened and the police were called to see if Pam wanted to prosecute. She was told that she could go home after she'd made her statement- home, as she pointed out to them, to the man who would 'bounce me off the walls' for prosecuting him. She tore up the statement, and the police shrugged and went away.

Housing told her the house would be hers when the arrears were paid off. She has reduced them to under £100 now, but the battering she received in mid August decided her that enough was enough. She fled to Social Services and was directed to Meg. Now she and the children are in the Droylsden refuge and Meg is confident that they will be rehoused in another council property. Housing are still saying she must go back to her old home-and husband.

the refuges

Cases like these are fairly run-of-the-mill in the Tameside refuges, which sheltered 175 women and 290 children last year. Tameside Battered Wives project was started by local Labour Councillor Frank Ruffly in 1975, and by 1976 three refuges were open and Meg Brickell had joined the project. The day I spoke to Meg, she had been up all night with a mentally subnormal battered woman and her eight week old baby - and that's quite typical of Meg's involvment with the refuges. She answers calls at all hours of the day and night (most come at weekends after nights out drinking). She collects women from wherever they are stranded.

Her energy and sympathy are boundless. And they need to be. She says: 'The problem is of massive proportions. It's the ones we don't know about that concern me. I reckon one in ten women is battered, mentally or physically. And the children - they're being destroyed.'

The project has always been short of money. £10 a week rent is received from the DHSS for each family, and a yearly grant of £300 from Social Services Committee. The job creation programme and then the Housing Dept., met the salaries of the 3 wardens resident at the refuges, but that petered out in March '78. Since then they have had no other income, until last month, when a grant of £5,750 was made by Tameside council. It sounds generous, until you work out that the Wives project saves the council, annually, at least £40,000 - which is what it would cost to keep all those homeless mothers and children in bed and breakfasts for the number of nights they spend in refuges.

All the refuges are damp, in need of redecoration, and have never had any new furniture. Items such as bed linen are often stolen by the women. Meg says, 'I'm not bothered if they nick it, I reckon they must need it,' but every loss is felt on such a small budget. The project started employing wardens partly for financial reasons - to keep the refuges in better condition, and were frowned on for doing so by Women's Aid, the national organisation that runs homes for battered women. Women's Aid think that hostels should be run by the residents on a self-help basis. It's a good

cont.p 12

FROM P.II.

BATTERED

idea, but difficult when distressed families, some of whom have been living in appalling conditions, move in and out after only a few days.

In Tameside when the woman arrives, the warden makes up clean beds (each family has a room), finds out if she needs money or clothes, and makes any necessary appointments for her (doctor, social security, solicitor etc.) Each family buys their own food, though they sometimes combine to cook it. Women look after each other's children and share the cleaning. Pamela described her arrival at the refuge, 'I didn't know what to expect. It's not a palace! But from the moment I walked in the girls were great, they made us a drink, all the beds were made and everything. After 24 hours I felt like I'd lived there 3 months. I had more freedom....you can learn to make up your own mind whereas at home you've been forced. It's a breathing space.'
Kids usually get on well in the refuges, after the terrors they have faced at home. Many bed wetters have stopped within 2 weeks of moving in, including Pam's 7 year old daughter.
In the last year 95 women decided to return to their husbands after staying in the refuge; 19 found other accommodation, and 16 were rehoused by the council. The average length of stay in the refuge was 4½ weeks, though some women have stayed as long as a year. Marriage counselling is offered to all couples who will agree to talk to each other, and there have been six reconciliations in as many months this year. It didn't work for Jean. Her husband was contrite at the counselling session, then threatened to take an axe to Meg afterwards for ruining his marriage.

Pam and Jean agreed with each other on the awful isolation a battered woman experiences. 'You loose all your friends. Your nerves are shattered. You're just in a void and there's nothing to grab out at.'
Pam didn't even know refuges existed north of London, until this August, after nine years of violence. Family, police and social workers had been asked for help, in Pam's case, but did nothing. It is a severe indictment of our society that men should batter their wives - and even more so that individuals and agencies stand by and do nothing to help the victims. The Battered Wives Project fills a gaping need in our Social Services, and deserves better than to be scraping around and begging for every penny it needs.

Battered Wives tel. 339 2345
If you can offer help of clothes, furniture, bedding, or any other help contact Meg on 339 2345.

■

Glossop Womens Aid are organising support for battered women and hope eventually to establish a refuge in Glossop. The next meeting is on Sept.25th at 8.30p.m.at the Grapes Inn, High St. West, Glossop.
Anyone who can offer help or support is welcome.
Contact No. (for women, or those interested in helping)
Glossop 62779

■

Violence against women is common in our society. Rape is on the increase, and 25,000 cases of battering come to light annually. Why ?
Our society STILL conditions men to be dominant, and to expect to dominate. They are the big strong ones, the brains, the money earners, the decision makers; what they say goes. So when a man starts to lose control, drinks, loses his job, fears his wife is unfaithful - what is more natural than to try to beat her into submission, and prove his superiority that way? Rape and wife battering are symptoms of the same disease, men regarding women as their inferiors, as objects of gratification. Most advertisers, media men, and pornographers support and encourage their view, and make a mint out of propogating it.

..AND THE 'UNHELPFUL' HEAD

A DROYLSDEN HEADMASTER HAS COMPLAINED TO HIS SUPERIORS ABOUT THE CHILDREN OF BATTERED WOMEN ATTENDING HIS SCHOOL.

Mr. Roberts, headmaster of Moorside St. Junior School, Droylsden objected to the number of such children using his school from the local refuge.
He told Eye that mothers forget to tell him when their children were leaving.
He was angry that many only stayed two days and added 'if they stayed three months it would be alright. Often these women go straight back to their husbands anyway'. Mr. Roberts also referred to the 'poor behaviour' of the refuge children and spoke of them as being 'retarded by unhappiness.'
Children arriving with mothers at Battered Wives Refuges in Tameside are normally sent to the local school.
They are nearly always unhappy and disturbed. Stays are often short because a refuge is, as the name implies, a 'refuge' and not a home.
Despite this Mr. Roberts is the only headmaster out of all the Tameside schools used by the refuge children who has complained.
Meg. Brickell of the Tameside Battered Wives project comments.
'We can't be held responsible for the mothers bad manners. An arrangement was made for the warden at the Droylsden refuge to 'phone Mr. Roberts when children were leaving. But he got so angry with her when she phoned that she is now frightened to contact him.'
After Mr. Roberts made his complaints an educational welfare officer, Mr. Leckie, was called in to 'liase'
Mr. Leckie told Eye that children from the Droylsden refuge are now sent to their mothers are 'encouraged to leave their kids at their original schools.'
The warden of the Droylsden refuge now warns mothers of the kind of reception they may get at Moorside and many decide that they've already had enough of male aggression and prefer to send their children on a long bus or taxi journey to their old school.

...ADVERTISER CONT

And its display advertising rates are MUCH cheaper.
A full page in The Reporter will cost you £800. In The Advertiser (with its smaller 'Tabloid' format) it is only £410 and the Advertiser ALREADY distributes more copies than the Reporter.
The 'Ripsnorters' monopoly on news and advertising in Tameside is over and it will, in the words of Mr. Morris

STAND & DELIVER!

music, words & something else...

ALL AT THE DOG & PARTRIDGE,
BROOK ST, ASHTON-U-LYNE.
The LEES pub in Richmond Park Est

on next

Sept 21st
8.30

Supported by Stand & Deliver, Tameside Eye, Tameside Libraries & Arts and North West Arts.

STAND AND DELIVER!

music, words and something else...

Set up two years ago at the Pitt and Nelson in Ashton, the 'Stand and Deliver! ' Group has since been putting on shows in pubs, clubs, theatres and schools in the North West.

STAND AND DELIVER will now be appearing at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Brook Street,(off Katherine Street), Ashton.
Mike Rooke, Ian Dagger, and Paul Taylor (the STAND AND DELIVER team) will act as hosts to a series of sessions, fortnightly on Friday evenings.
Time; 8.30 pm
Place; upstairs room of the Dog and Partridge.

THESE SESSIONS WILL PROVIDE A VARIED PROGRAMME OF MUSIC, POETRY, PLAYS AND ENTERTAINMENT IN AN INFORMAL SETTING. LOCAL POETS, MUSICIANS AND THEATRE GROUPS WILL BE TAKING PART, AND THERE'LL BE GUEST APPEARANCES FROM OUTSIDE ARTISTS.

Anyone interested in performing should come along to a session (the first is 21st Sept.) or submit copy and/or tapes to Mike Rooke, 5 Rush Hill Rd., Uppermill, Oldham.
tel.Saddleworth 5841

If you write, rave, rant, have performing fleas, sing, act or are a good listener, come along; the Stand and Deliver evenings will be as good and varied as we and <u>you</u> can make them.

Special events will be advertised and reviewed in Tameside Eye look out for them!

the stand & deliver team

MIKE ROOKE:- Presents 'PLAY-GROUND' - a sequence based on kids'games and experiences, and two child like adult characters. He captures some of the spite, fantasy, and dangers of kids' worlds, and draws connections with those of grown ups. The performance is larger than life, like a Jack-in-the-box on stilts!

IAN DAGGER:- Takes situations in ordinary and not so ordinary life to absurd conclusions - like the two men arguing about the size of their cars, or the unfortunate child who lost a tooth, getting ripped-off by fairies. Witty and abrasive. Ian's explosive humour is not to be missed.

PAUL TAYLOR:- Guitarist who presents a highly individual selection of music, echoing the worlds of jazz, blues and ragtime.

politician

here's the quick-witted jackdaw
in all our lives
the picker-up of innuendo
and pawner of ideas
a jerker off of other men's dreams
who hunts a fox
and spills the beans
only when it's provident to do so

a scrapbook merchant
cutting out and sticking in
nothing but secondhand rubbish
a calculated tactful tactician
who espouses shoddy reasons
and seeks to impress us with facade
but whose emotional life swells in cold storage
like maturing wine
deep in the vaults of his character
hidden

child

slug a bug
with the dirty fingers
kneels over the gutter
to inspect the drains
peering prying
and poking the black water with his stick
to see what's floating
as if maybe there's treasure down there
or better still a naughty rumour
of something he shouldn't be looking at
like a sliver of rubber
or a message from his girl friend
with rude words on it

by mike rooke

Mothers slam CHC

Having read investigations into TCHC (Eye 8)(Community Health Council) a group of Broadbottom mothers contacted us about a battle they have been waging since last November over clinic closures.

They say that, far from representing the views of the public, the CHC ignores it and is incapable even of representing the views of its own members correctly to the Area Health Authority.

Last year the A.H.A. said that clinics in Broadbottom, Hyde and Gee Cross should be closed because of poor premises, and as part of their 'rationalization' plans. This was in spite of the fact that a new community centre had just opened in Broadbottom offering vastly improved premises for the monthly clinic.

Mothers would have to travel to clinics at Hollingworth or Hattersley (a long trail by bus or train with prams and toddlers; the times of buses etc. meant they could not be back in time to collect older children from school.)

The child health clinic at Broadbottom provides check ups and standard innoculations - and the social value it has in bringing together isolated new mothers is as vital as its medical value.

On reading of the proposed closure, the Community Association sent a letter of objection to the C.H.C.

Some mothers attended the next C.H.C. meeting (Nov. 21st '78) and discovered that a C.H.C. working party had also recommended closure of the clinics, without having contacted staff or users, or looking into the transport problems.

After hearing the mothers' case, members of the C.H.C. did actually visit the clinic where one member of the working party told astonished mothers that the C.H.C. was 'not meant to represent the consumer'. They found that the doctor and health visitor were also against the closure, and on Dec. 19th '78 they recommended not only that Broadbottom should retain its clinic- but that a new purpose-built clinic should be sited there! The mothers asked to see the working party report before the meeting but were refused.

The vote at the next meeting eventually went narrowly in favour of keeping all three clinics open.

Mrs. Grundy, Chair person of the C.H.C. was supposed to take this view to the A.H.A. meeting on Feb 26th '79. The Mother's group were told that they were not allowed to speak at the A.H.A. meeting as Mrs. Grundy would represent them. They were therefore horrified to hear her, after very briefly stating her committee's vote, expressing forcibly and at much greater length her personal view that two clinics (not Broadbottom) could in fact be closed without any inconvenience.

Pat Thomas says 'She gave not a single argument in favour of keeping them open - she was the one representative of the public at that meeting and she went across her own committees vote and ignored our views.'

The nine mothers attending were so incensed that they finally abandoned the CHC. and put their own point of view forcefully and persistently in spite of the horror this caused!

The embarrassed A.H.A. formed a new working party to look into the closures again, and on 21st May approved the decision to retain a clinic at Broadbottom, at the new Community Centre.

EYE talked to three of the fifteen mothers who have been actively involved - Pat Thomas, Pat Hetherington and Valerie Bryson. They found the CHC unsympathetic, bureaucratic and difficult to deal with. The meetings are too formal; the public aren't allowed to join in discussion but only to comment at the end, and participation is difficult as members tend to sit in a circle with their backs to the public. Agendas of their meetings are not easily accessible to thepublic before the meetings - why can't they be published in local papers, as are the dates of their meetings?

Pat Thomas sums up their experience; 'What sickens me is that we should have to spend so much time and effort fighting the CHC, the body that is supposed to help us.' Hear, hear!

MILLBROOK TIP OFF

Did you think that Tameside were completely incapable of representing the interests of its residents? Seems they can, if they are pushed.

Greater Manchester Council wish to bulldoze plans through to use the Lower Brushes Valley, Stalybridge as a tip for 'domestic refuse and trade waste'.

The 35½ acres covered would make it one of the largest tips in Greater Manchester. The site would be used for five years providing an accumulation of at least 20 million cubic feet of rubbish.

The fact that the area is a local beauty spot is to provide no deterrent.

GMC do not appear worried either by the fact that 'difficult waste' is to be dumped (in other words noxious chemicals) where surface water is to be drained into Mill Brook, Huddersfield Canal, the Tame itself, plus a nearby reservoir.

While residents are thinking up ways of keeping their children from local water sport, they can prepare for the effect of the 500 heavy lorries a day which will pass in and out of the entrance at Hartley St. onto Huddersfield Rd. For those who don't know the area this is at the foot of a hill on a hairpin bend.

For the past 18 months the Crantock Drive Area Residents Assoc. have been fighting proposals. In October GMC are to apply to themselves for planning permission. The Association wonders if GMC read their own policy documents as it is in direct contradiction to their own structure plan.

So far, Tameside councillors including Mayor Meredith, Jack Pettit and Geoff Brierly are making sympathetic noises to the Association disputing the GMC's claim to the land. Even M.P. Pendry has promised to pressure for an enquiry if plans go through.

But, what appears to concern them most is not the problem of refuse disposal generally and this tip in particular, but their fears of being over ruled by the mighty GMC.

What is certain is that without the concerted action of local residents current Tameside posturings would have been to little effect

The all-women BLOOMERS THEATRE GROUP is on in Tameside:-

Tue 18th Sept.
Fairfield Centre, Grove St.
Droylsden. 8.00pm

Wed. 19th Sept.
Hyde Community Centre
Lwr.Bennett St. Hyde. 8.00pm

Thur. 20th Sept.
Denton Community Centre
Prestwick St. Denton. 8.00pm

Sun. 30th Sept.
West End Community Centre
John St., Ashton Under Lyne
8.00pm 50p.

Tameside Eye needs a decent typewriter. At present we have to rely on being able to borrow one — and as it is old, it often breaks down on us. We want to get an IBM "Executive" — they cost £350 second-hand (£700 new). In addition to typing out the paper, it could also be used by community and trade union groups. ALL IDEAS, MONEY, ETC. TO TAMESIDE EYE NOW!

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR EYE? ITS ON SALE AT THESE NEWSAGENTS

AUDENSHAW
G & T News, 528 Audenshaw
Crudden, 12 Groby Rd. . Rd.
Whittaker, 133 Droylsdn Rd.
Brock, 107 North Rd.
ASHTON
Booth, 73a Stamford St.
F & F, 201 Stamford St
2 Kiosks, Bus Station
Rusco, 77 Hill St.
Kay, 276 Stockport Rd.
Dochety, 46 Stockport Rd.
Hindel, Market Hall
Spencers, 159 Old St.
Hesmondalgh, Penny Meadow
Buckley, 201 Kings Rd.
Pendlebury, 34 Turner Lane
Broadbent, 67 Crowhill Rd
Constantine, 156 Oldham Rd.
Machin, 49 Wilshaw Lane
Smalley, 50 St. Albans Av.
97 Warrington St.
Ollerenshaw, 47 Queens Rd.
Docmor, Broadoak Cres.
Tyrell, Kings Rd.
Douglas, Whiteacre Rd.
Meagher, Mossley Rd.
MANCHESTER
Grassroots Bkshop, Newton St
" Oxford Rd
Percivals, Oxford Rd.
HATTERSLEY
Collinge, 1 Honiton Ave.
Delta, Sandy Bank Ave.
Lowe, Kingston Arcard
NSS, John Kennedy Rd.
HYDE
Heginbotham, 114 Market St.
Hurst, 55 Stockport Rd.
Hurst, 280 Stockport Rd.
Hymes, 93 Market St.
Mall Stat. The Mall
Metro Kiosk, Bus Station
Newspot, Market Place
Wilds, 163 Market St
BROADBOTTOM
Smith. Temperance St.
MOTTRAM
Stone, Mottram Post Office
HEYROD
Bowes, 314 Wakefield St.
STALYBRIDGE
Brown, 4 Ambleside
Graham, 21 Market St.
Garside, 99 Market St.
Dowzer, 73 Melbourne St.
Smithies, 40 Melbourne St
Cox, 8 The Arcade,
MOSSLEY
D & T, 157 Manchester Rd
Furness, 10 Wagon Rd
Harding, 8 Lees Rd.
Ogden, 17 Stamford St.
DUKINFIELD
Farrow, 25 Town Lane
Hesketh, 113 Astley St.
Harwood, 59 Armadale Rd.
DROYLSDEN
Mather, 115 Manchester Rd
Ball, 135 Moorside St.
Spurrett, 125 Market St.
Robinson, 104 Market St.
Cockram, 21 Market St.
DENTON
Mills, 119 Haughton Green
Slaite, 115 Hyde Rd.
Williams, 146 Hyde Rd.
Jaundrell, 33 Moorfield Av
Hulme, 12 Stockport Rd.
Fenner, 4 Ashton Rd.
Werwick, 84 Manchester Rd.
Leech, 145 Ashton Rd.
GLOSSOP
Campbell, High St. E.
Howe. Station Rd.
HOLLINGWORTH
Morgan, Market St
Eddleston, Market St

PIRATE JENNY THEATRE GROUP in :-
" On Good Authority "

A New Play taking a fresh look at the Media
On: Saturday, October 13th At: 7.45 pm.
AT: Egerton Park School, Denton. 60p.
(30p. unwaged) Presented by TAMESIDE SWP

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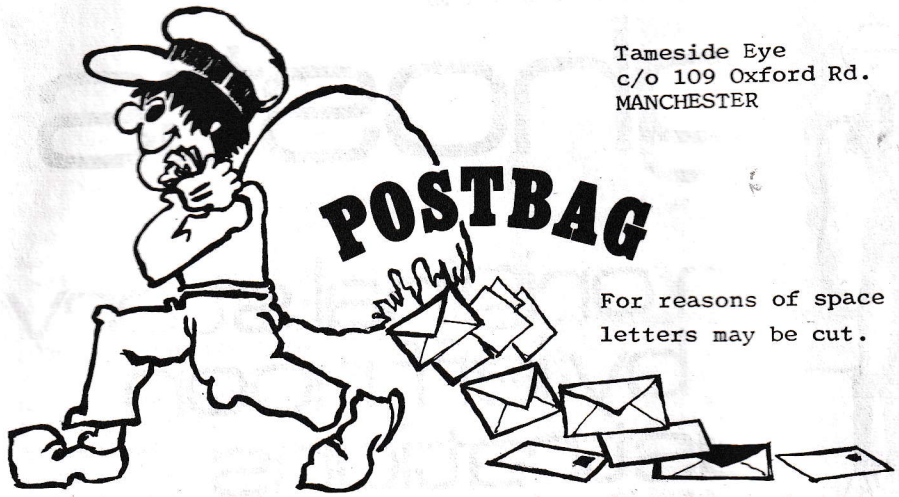


Tameside Eye
c/o 109 Oxford Rd.
MANCHESTER

For reasons of space letters may be cut.

Dear Eye,
I was surprised to read your article 'Winter of Discontent' in your June issue. It would have been easy to believe that you were reading the Ash Town Reporter, some hack article snidely attacking the Trades Union movement. Briefly allow me to tell the REAL story of the Delta Enfield dispute.
Bro.Moulding a delegate to Tameside Trades Union Council from ASTMS first reported his dispute at a meeting of our Executive Committee which meets on the 2nd Tuesday in the month prior to the council meeting. Bro.Moulding asked us for aid and assistance in the dispute. We right away wrote to all our affiliated union branches informing them of the dispute and asked them to recognise it and help in whatever way they could. We also decided to print a leaflet addressed to the other trade unionists in the factory, asking for them to recognise the official ASTMS picket line and withdraw their labour.
On the Friday following the Executive Meeting, members of the Council turned up on the picket line with these leaflets, and handing them out as the workers went into work addressed them via our loud hailer asking their support for Br. Mouldings' colleagues. To be truthful, to our surprise workers started to come back out of the factory and formed up on the picket line. Indeed, the Manager completely closed down the factory at about 9.20 am - most of the workers out in solidarity with ASTMS.
When you consider that the strikers consisted of Supervisors, Foremen, and Security men, we felt that the Delta Enfield workers showed a surprising and heartwarming trade unionism that made many present feel that the daily grind was worth it after all.
To read your article after knowing what really happened was to be dumbstruck.
We feel that you and your paper owe the principled trade unionists of Delta Enfield of Stalybridge a grovelling apology.
Fraternally,
Dave Hallsworth, Secretary
Tameside Trades Union Council.

EYE REPLY:
And we, in turn, are dumbstruck by your misreading of our article. It was quite clearly supporting the workers who took action at Delta. Our main source was a leading figure in the strike. We are, however, happy to give space to your somewhat different interpretation of events.

~

Dear Tameside Eye,

I write to express the disgust of members of Tameside Campaign Against Racism and Fascism with your article concerning this organisation in the 'Wretch' column (Issue no 8). Accusations of 'paranoia' seem strange coming from your publication which, on the previous occasion it had anything to print about the affairs of a member of CARF, insisted on seeing links between arrests at Grunwicks, sackings by Tameside council, and police surveillance.
We are surely one of the last organisations that could be accused of 'paranoia' - a term relating to the imaginary. The hoax telephone calls in the middle of the night were real enough - and the Ashton Labour Party has taken the matter seriously enough to suspend from office the person concerned. The two building bricks which have been put through Peter Jepson's shop window recently were real enough. So was the one that went through the window of another of our members last October, narrowly missing a sleeping baby. The assaults by nazis on several of our members and the arrests and the police attempts to criminalise our activities were also real enough.
Unfortunately, people involved in a campaign like ours, who are not afraid to speak out, do become subject to such attacks. This is something 'Wretch' with his 'plague on all your houses' version of gutter journalism, will not be conscious of. Any campaign worth its existence must protect its activists and the people who speak on its behalf.
CARF, like most other organisations of the working class in this area, welcomed the appearance of Tameside Eye. We saw it as a paper that would belong to, and serve, the ordinary working class people and not the press barons and their friends.
We were sick of the 'Ripsnorter' which generally ignored our activities and when it covered them, did so in a distorted manner. But, quite frankly, we now wonder whether your alternative treatment - flippancy, ridicule, belittlement - is not far worse.
Eye should take heed of this letter and the ones that have appeared in your previous two issues, accusing you of negativity and destructiveness. Your excellent articles on South Africa, for, instance, or on the machinations of local industrialists and landlords demonstrate the capabilities of Eye as a real, alternative paper.
You should kill off the 'Wretch' before it kills off Tameside Eye.
Yours sincerely,
John Pearson,
Secretary Tameside CARF
C/O A.U.E.W. House,
Margaret St. South,
Ashton Under Lyne.

~

Dear Eye,
A review of Labour election promises:
First in the list is comprehensive education and to be fair to Cllr. Oldham, he is trying to fulfil his promises made to the Tameside Electorate, but even in this sphere progress is slow and many observers feel that the leadership of the Labour group seems to be more interested in attending civic luncheons at ratepayers expense than getting their heads together to implement their programme.
Conclusion: No action.

cont. page 19

ghosts

an original story by jeff noon illustrations by pat baker

Someone is in the room with me. Can't see. Not yet. I hear them moving about. At night. I'm trying to get to sleep and someone sits in the armchair in the corner. Who? Scared to open my eyes, but when I do there's no-one there. Again. I come home from work. Open the door to find something's been moved. A book open at a different page, my clothes may be re-arranged, other things. Record player working although the sound is turned right down.
At work the usual thing. Distance. There is no communication between me and the other workers there. Our missing words become a tangible force between us. A vacuum. What can I do? I come home and now this. Last night watching TV, a noise behind me. I turn and catch in the corner of my eye a dark shape moving quickly away from my vision. I look round everywhere but, of course, nothing there.

.....

Now, tonight, I'm prepared for whatever happens between us. Me and her. She's revealed herself to me at last. So now I know (why didn't I realise before?) that I am dead. And haunted by my own ghost. I'm not the only one of course. Not the only one who dies and doesn't realise it until the ghost comes along and gives you the news.
The thing I don't understand is that she doesn't look like me. Not only doesn't look like me, she is the opposite sex! I'm not shocked. I'm at the stage now, where I could accept

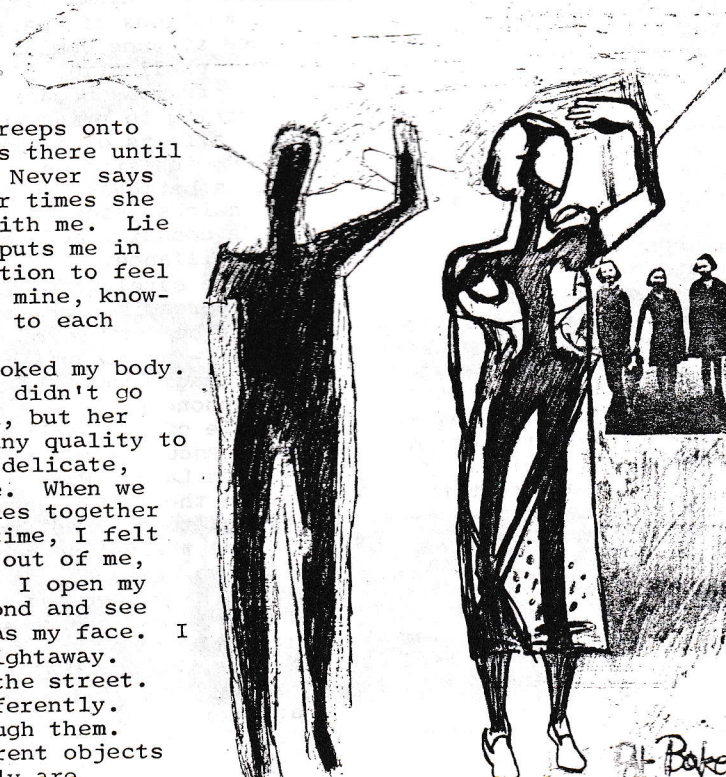
The man in the next flat has been getting on my nerves today. Complaining about the noise. I couldn't even talk to him. My mouth wouldn't open. Really wouldn't open, so it had nothing to do with me. I wanted to ask him which noise he was on about but I couldn't. I just looked at him. After a while he quit talking. He wasn't there any more. I can't be sure.

.....

My ghost likes me. She haunts me, but not in a bad way.

Sometimes she creeps onto the bed and sits there until I fall asleep. Never says anything. Other times she will crawl in with me. Lie beside me. It puts me in a strange situation to feel her body beside mine, knowing what we are to each other.
Tonight she stroked my body. No, her fingers didn't go through my skin, but her touch had a funny quality to it. It was so delicate, only just there. When we joined our bodies together for the first time, I felt something seep out of me, into her body. I open my eyes for a second and see that she now has my face. I shut them straightaway.
I go out into the street. See people differently. See right through them. Hollow transparent objects

I cannot touch them. My hand passes through their form with only the slightest resistance. They never seem to notice me. Not even when I occupy the same place as them. Climb into them, so to speak, and walk along beside them. I cant feel anything.
Get back into the flat. I don't need a key any more. It feels empty, abandoned. Stood there, waiting for her to come back. Don't know if she will. I feel hungry which surprises me, and I go out to the kitchen and try to eat, of course nothing makes contact. The food falls to the floor. Is it my fate then, to die of starvation in this strange manner?



Hello Readers!

How thrilled I was to read a report in CHESHIRE LIFE all about Sir William Mathers birthday party for his son. Tameside's leading philanthropists Sir George and Lady Christine Kenyon were there you see cementing relations not only with their host, influential boss of Mather and Platt, but also with that genial geriatric CHARLES CORNWALL LEGH (76) seventeen years the chairman of the Cheshire Police Authority and, by some miraculous coincidence, a former High Sherrif of that county, JUST LIKE SIR GEORGE AND SIR WILLIAM!
Also present was Sir Ralph Bateman the Vice President of the immensely powerful Confederation of British Industries. Sir Ralph is also of course a colleague of Sir George on the governing body of Manchester University, and of Sir William on the equivalent body at Salford.
Unfortunately, Sir George Kenyons head was cut off in the photo that accompanied the article. I do hope that doesn't give the revolting readers of Cheshire Life undesirable revolutionary ideas.

I'm sick of getting complaints about that dismal rag TAMESIDE EYE.
My Tory friends think its run by rabid reds, my acquaintances on the loony left think its a CIA plot and my next door neighbour can only read it bit by bit over the month otherwise she gets too depressed.
My aged mother thinks its nasty, badly written and takes great pleasure in lining her cat basket with it.
Well, it's no use complaining.

What can you expect from an editorial group of pinko school teachers, social workers, community workers and Polytechnic lecturers.
I was against national health orange juice at the time, and now look what its bred!

My Socialist friends keep telling me not to bank at Barclays because of its involvement with the regimes in South Africa and Zimbabwe/Rhodesia.
Doubtless they have organised pickets and protests against comrades who persist in using the bankers of apartheid.
Which means they should picket the HQ of the Zimbabwe guerillas political arm 'Zimbabwe African Peoples Union' (ZAPU)
Whose account no. is 20108685, sorting code 20-87-27 Barclays Bank.

I do wish my good friend Conservative Cllr.John Kershaw hadn't appeared as a guest speaker at a'National Association for Freedom 'members meeting in Altrincham last month.

N.A.F.F., now known as the Freedom Association, has got a terribly dubious reputation these days and people might start to think that John - who lost so nobly against Tom Pendry in last May's Parliamentary election - is a member himself.

Wretch

(Sources: City Enquirer)

Govt. spending cuts have cut £2 m. off Tameside's housing budget. But Labour leader George Newton is putting a brave face on it . He recentlty told The Reporter that ' the Government money was only for NEW houses' whereas much of the emphasis in Tameside housing policy is on 'improving older property.'
In fact the £2million cut WILL affect the improvement of older property in Tameside.
As much as one third of the total Govt. housing grant can by law, be switched between sectors, and Housing Chairman Peter Bailey had plans to use some of the money allocated for new building to improve old property.
But the £2million cut has left no leeway to do this.
But even with a reduced housing budget Labour are not likely to spend-up.
The 640 houses to be built this year -the most since the early days of Tameside- represent a short fall of over 200 on the 900 target trumpeted last May. The main reason for this is, according to Peter Bailey, NOT Government cuts, but an acute shortage of land in the area.

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FROM P. 17

Second. Less control by Tameside officers of affairs, more control by the elected councillors. A meeting was called by councillors at which a publicity committee was to be set up. The officers refused to have anything to do with it and asked the councillors not to set it up until they had debated the pros and cons of such a committee. Weakly, the Labour councillors agreed not to set it up. (Who controls Tameside?)
Thirdly, the review of the £11 m. complex in Ashton. The Council says that to pull out of the deal would cost £5m. But what will it mean once it is built?
Let us say, for instance, you are 2,330 on the housing waiting list. It means you can then go to Ashton instead of Denton to ask why you can't have a council house. It also means you can be told again that the council has not enough money to build new houses for you, and you can be told all these things in a new eleven million pound complex.
So far, Tameside Labour council is still as weak as it was in 1974, and of the three examples I quote, only one, the first one, are they attempting to fulfill their mandatory promises.
A friend asked me the other day what is the difference between the Labour and Conservative councillors. I answered- none.

I.B.Watching (Lab. Party member)

the secret life of **Uncle Ben**

HELLO BOYS AND GIRLS! ERNIE DIM THE HALF WITTED LEADER OF THE NEW LAMESIDE COUNCIL WAS TRYING TO GET ME TO ABANDON ALL THE THINGS I BELIEVE IN - GOD THE QUEEN, FREE ENTERPRISE TAX DODGING ETC - FOR A LIFE OF CRIME. : ROBBING THE LOCAL RICH TO FINANCE HIS INSANE SOCIALISM.

I WILL NOT DO IT! I AM A TRUE BORN ENGLISH-MAN. DO YOUR WORST DIM!

ALRIGHT. YERVE FORCED ME INTO THIS .... A'M NOT A VIOLENT MAN BY NATURE BUT..

AM GOIN TER GIVE YER.....

...NO.... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO....

A CHINESE BURN!

TWIST! BURN!

THROB

SWELL

YAARGH! ALRIGHT I GIVE IN!

NEXT DAY AT TRASHTON LINKS!

I'M LOOKING FOR SIR GODFREY AND LADY MUCK. ROTARIANS, INDUSTRIALIST PHILANTHROPISTS, BUT ABOVE ALL.....

BZZZZZZZ

SUICIDAL SNAIL

MUM!

HURRY UP NOW GODFREY!

COMING DEAR!

FILTHY RICH! THERE THEY ARE!

LASSOO

TEE HEE!

NOW GODFREY, WHAT ARE WE TO DO WITH THIS COUNCILLOR DIM CHAPPIE WHO WANTS TO SIT ON THE BENCH!

OUTRAGEOUS THE MANS A SOCIALIST

BUT WERE ALL SOCIALISTS NOW DEAR, AND BESIDES HE'S PROMISED PLANNING PERMISSION FOR OUR NEW MASSAGE PARLOUR

HUMPH! ALL THE MAN WANTS IS FREE HAND RELIEF.

AND BESIDES, HE'S A TOTAL IDIOT!

YES, BUT I THINK HED MAKE A GOOD J.P. DEAREST!

GOTCHA

BZZZZZZZ

TWANG. THROTTLE!

YIKES!!!

LATER....

BZZZ

KNOCK KNOCK

INFLATABLE ALDERMEN COMPLETE WITH WHIPS + CHAINS OF OFFICE

FILL WITH HOT AIR AND TAKE TO BED

PLAY COUNCILLOR

COUNCIL MASCOTS - FOR USE ON ANY OCCASION

PLAYMEMBER OF THE MONTH

BZZZZZZZ

ENTER!

THERTS NOT TH'ONLY ONE BYT LOOK OF THINGS IN 'ERE.

IVE DONE IT COUNCILLOR DIM!

BZZZZZZZZZ

BY GUM LAD YOULL GET THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH FOR THIS!

BZZ

BZZZ

NO CLOTHES.

BUT WHERES THE LOOT?

SLIGHT PROBLEM THERE COMRADE. THEY DIDNT HAVE ANY ON THEM - SAID IT WAS ALL INVESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA....

BZZZZ

SO I MUGGED THEM, PAWNED THEIR CLOTHES AND DROPPED THEM BOTH DOWN THE TOWN HALL OUBLIET LIKE YOU SAID.

RATS! HOW MUCH DID YOU GET?

50p, THREE LUNCHEON VOUCHERS, A N.A.F.F. BADGE AND A FRENCH TICKLER

BZZZZZZZZZ

FROM CHAUMONT

SANK EAVEN FOR LEETLE GIRLS♪♪

BY MY GRANDADS ROTTING FERRETS! YOU CANT ESTABLISH THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT ON THREE LUNCHEON VOUCHERS AND A TICKLER!

BZZZZZZZ

MH/JN 5

WHO WERE THEY ANYWAY?

BZZZZZZZ

BLUBBER! BLUBBER. OH NO!!

SIR GODFREY & LADY MUCK

COUNCILLOR DIM

..... COMRADE DIM ..... ER COMRADE DIM.... WHY ARE YOU SOBBING?

SPECIAL BRANCH BUG

BZZZ

HES SOBBING BECAUSE THERES NO JUSTICE IN THE WORLD!